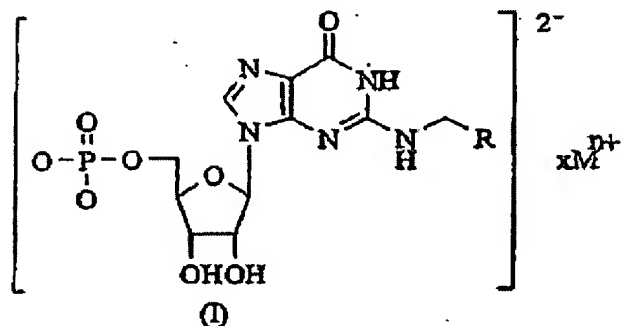


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

## 1. (Currently Amended) Compounds of general formula (I)



wherein[[]], R is:

$C_1-C_4$  alkyl, optionally substituted with an  $S-R^1$  group, in which  $R^1$  is  $C_1-C_3$  alkyl;

a phenyl, benzyl, thiophenyl or benzothiophenyl group, optionally substituted with 1-5 substituents, preferably 1 to 3 substituents, which can be the same or different, selected from  $-NO_2$ ,  $-CHO$ ,  $-R^1$  or  $-SR^1$  groups, in which  $R^1$  has the meaning defined above;

M is hydrogen, an alkali or alkaline-earth metal;

X is 1 when n is 2 and X is 2 when n is 1 with the exclusion of the compounds of formula (I) wherein R is methyl or propyl.

2. (Currently Amended) Compounds as claimed in claim 1 wherein R is straight  $C_1-C_3$  alkyl substituted with an[[]]  $S-R^1$  group, in which  $R^1$  is methyl.

3. (Currently Amended) Compounds as claimed in ~~claims~~claim 1, wherein R is a phenyl, thiophenyl or benzothiophenyl group, optionally substituted with an  $-NO_2$ , methyl or  $-SR^1$  group, in which  $R^1$  is as defined in claim 1.

4. (Previously Presented) Compounds as claimed in claim 1, wherein M is hydrogen, sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium or barium.

5. (Currently Amended) Compounds as claimed in claim 1, wherein M is hydrogen, sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium or barium and R is:

straight C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl substituted with a -SCH<sub>3</sub> group;

a phenyl, thiophenyl or benzothiophenyl group, optionally substituted with an  $[-\text{NO}_2]$  -NO<sub>2</sub>, methyl or -SCH<sub>3</sub> group.

6. (Previously Presented) Compounds as claimed in claim 1 in which M is hydrogen or sodium.

7. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 1 which is selected from:

N<sup>2</sup>-(3-methylthio)-propyl guanosine-5'-monophosphate;

N<sup>2</sup>-(4-methylthiophenyl)-methyl guanosine-5'-monophosphate;

N<sup>2</sup>-(2-methylthiophenyl)-methyl guanosine-5'-monophosphate;

N<sup>2</sup>-thiophen-2-yl-methyl guanosine-5'-monophosphate;

N<sup>2</sup>-thiophen-3-yl-methyl guanosine-5'-monophosphate;

N<sup>2</sup>-(5-methylthiophen-2-yl)-methyl guanosine-5'-monophosphate;

N<sup>2</sup>-(3-methylthiophen-2-yl)-methyl guanosine-5'-monophosphate;

N<sup>2</sup>-(3-ethylthiophen-2-yl)-methyl guanosine-5'-monophosphate;

N<sup>2</sup>-(3-nitrothiophen-2-yl)-methyl guanosine-5'-monophosphate;

N<sup>2</sup>-(thianaphthen-3-yl)-methyl guanosine-5'-monophosphate

and the corresponding sodium salts.

8. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 7 which is N<sup>2</sup>-(3-Methylthio)-propyl guanosine-5'-monophosphate and the corresponding sodium salt.

9. (Previously Presented) The use of the compounds as claimed in claim 1 as flavour enhancers in food preparations.

10. (Previously Presented) The use of the compounds as claimed in claim 1, alone or in combination with monosodium glutamate and/or with 5'-monophosphate nucleotides, as flavour enhancers in food preparations.

11. (Previously Presented) The use as claimed in claim 9 for the preparation of pasta, risottos, soups, dried and wet soups, snacks, sauces, salad dressings, ready-made red and white sauces, stock cubes, soup preparations, cooked and uncooked dressed meats, tinned meat, stuffed pasta and preserved vegetables.

12. (Previously Presented) Flavour enhancers comprising a compound of claim 1 in admixture with monosodium glutamate and/or with 5'-monophosphate nucleotides.

13. (Original) Food preparations containing the compositions of claim 12.

14. (Currently Amended) Compounds as claimed in claim 2, wherein M is hydrogen, sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium or barium.

15. (Previously Presented) Compounds as claimed in claim 3, wherein M is hydrogen, sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium or barium.

16. (Previously Presented) Compounds as claimed in claim 2 in which M is hydrogen or sodium.

17. (Previously Presented) Compounds as claimed in claim 3 in which M is hydrogen or sodium.

18. (Previously Presented) Compounds as claimed in claim 4 in which M is hydrogen or sodium.

19. (Previously Presented) Compounds as claimed in claim 5 in which M is hydrogen or sodium.